

Eife of Haddon Township, New Jersey, a resident dedicated to his community, country, and those who have bravely served and defended the United States of America.

HONORING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL FOR WINNING THE CLASS 4A BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Valley High School Boys Basketball of West Des Moines for winning the Class 4A Basketball State Championship beating the Waukee Northwest Wolves.

Since 2018, the Valley Tigers had not been in the State Championship. However, when they showed up this year, they showed up to play.

Making 80 percent of three pointers and nearly 70 percent of the shots taken, the Tigers were here to win.

By outscoring and mastering the rebounding battle, they put up the points needed to maintain the lead.

In the final 8 minutes of the game, the Wolves went for a comeback, but Valley was prepared.

After a 4-year hiatus, the Tigers are Champions once again. The third state championship in the history of the school, and the second in the last seven years. Truly a monumental moment for the players, coach, staff, students, and parents.

We are so proud of all of them and know how meaningful this win truly is.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT BOSTON

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and JIM RISCH, I rise today to honor the exceptional and distinguished career of Mr. Robert D. Boston. Mr. Boston has dedicated more than 38 years to federal service, that includes his 23 years of service at the U.S. Department of Energy.

Mr. Boston has led an impressive life and career, and we are most grateful for his leadership role as the Manager of the Department of Energy's Idaho Operations Office—a position he has honorably served in for many years. In this role, he has been responsible for oversight of the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), the nation's leading nuclear energy research, development, and demonstration laboratory; and for providing oversight of the environmental cleanup and waste management mission at the Idaho site.

As Deputy Manager and later Manager, he was instrumental in negotiating agreements between the Department of Energy and the State of Idaho. Many of these agreements have been critical to establishing the INL as the nation's lead nuclear research and development laboratory. Under his leadership, a path was created in the agreement for the INL

to receive spent nuclear fuel for research purposes and an approach was developed for the handling of spent fuel from important on-site reactor demonstrations. These elements will ensure ongoing missions at the Lab.

The INL is home to the world's most powerful test reactor, the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR). This test reactor serves as the flagship irradiation facility in the U.S. and can simultaneously support a variety of experiments for multiple customers like the Department of Energy, the U.S. Navy, or university and industry partners. During his tenure, Mr. Boston oversaw the important maintenance overhaul of ATR Core Internals Changeout VI. The 11-month outage, the longest and most complex outage in ATR history, was completed in March of 2022 and will enable the nation's principal test reactor to continue safe operations critical to the Department's research portfolio and security mission.

Mr. Boston played a key role in DOE history when he led the effort to restart the Transient Test Reactor in 2017. This transient reactor facility, also known as TREAT, is a unique national asset and is now providing the Nation with a testing capability that has been missing since 1994. While in operation at INL, TREAT will help shape the future of clean energy and foster new ways to bring innovative reactor technologies to the market.

Under his leadership, the INL completed many major infrastructure improvements, and significantly improved research and development capabilities with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. In addition to these improvements, Mr. Boston has also been involved in establishing new and innovative reactor projects, including the Versatile Test Reactor, the PELE Department of Defense reactor, and the Microreactor Applications Research Validation and Evaluation project (MARVEL), among others.

Mr. Boston will also leave an enduring impression on the future generations of nuclear engineers in Idaho. He is adjunct faculty at Idaho State University (ISU) and a member of the ISU Reactor Safety Committee, ISU Engineering Advisory Board, and the ISU Health Physics Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Boston's leadership has had a lasting impact on the advancement of the Idaho National Laboratory, the Nation's nuclear energy program and national security missions. We sincerely thank Mr. Boston for his dedicated service to our state and country and wish him well in this next chapter of his life.

HONORING THE CAREER OF SFC (RET.) ALAN CONRAD

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of SFC Alan Conrad, JROTC Army Instructor at Concordia Lutheran High School, who is retiring at the end of the school year.

Sergeant Conrad has been the Army Instructor at Concordia Lutheran for a remarkable 29 years. In this role, he's helped fulfill the mission of the Army's JROTC program: "To Motivate Young People to be Better Citi-

zens." For nearly 30 years, his commitment to students has helped shape new generations of leaders.

Prior to his career at Concordia, Sergeant Conrad was active duty in the Army. As a Communication SGT, Conrad was assigned to Special Forces Detachment Alpha where he deployed several times to Central and Latin America between 1983 and 1986 as part of the military's efforts to monitor and arrest the flow of illegal drugs to the United States.

SFC Conrad's service also included multiple deployments to the U.S.-Mexico border to work with the U.S. Border Patrol's BORTAC unit, whose mission is to neutralize terror threats to the American homeland.

With 15 years of active service in the Army, Conrad earned numerous awards and decorations, including the Master Parachutists' Badge, Special Forces Tab, and the Special Forces 'S' Identifier. Civilian awards he earned include the Department of the Army Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Independent Colleges of Indiana "Realizing the Dream" Award and the WKJG TV Teacher Award.

I wish him the very best as he begins a new chapter of his life. I'm proud to present this official congressional document to him as a token of gratitude on behalf of all of Congress for his service to our community and country. Men like Conrad make our country great, and for him we are most grateful.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER OF IOWA—JORGE VILLEDA—IN OTTUMWA (WAPELLO COUNTY)

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jorge Villeda of Ottumwa for receiving the Neal Smith Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the Small Business Development Center of Iowa.

Jorge is the type of individual who believed in the American Dream and worked hard to achieve it. He is the true definition of inspiration to us as Iowans and to all of us as Americans.

His father was his encouragement all along as he had owned his own successful business in El Salvador.

Jorge took the skills of good customer service and the value of hard work from his early days working in his dad's grocery store. He started his own construction business Villeda Construction in Ottumwa.

He always loved hard work, so he started a business that combined his two favorite things—customer service and construction.

Mr. Villeda's achievements, personally and professionally, are a testament to what can be done if you never stop believing and working hard. Jorge's story also demonstrates how, in a state like Iowa, anything is possible.

I want to again congratulate Jorge for his achievement. His passion, dedication, and persistence are an encouragement to every person who has ever had a dream worth chasing.